Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PAGE 01 STATE 162477 11 ORIGIN L-02 INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 ACDA-05 DODE-00 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 DPW-01 DHA-02 /115 R DRAFTED BY L:GHALDRICH:LR APPROVED BY L:GHALDRICH EUR - MR. MARSH OSD/ISA-MR. ANDERSON (SUB) ACDA - MRS. MAZEAU (SUB) ----- 005693 R 102053Z JUL 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY PARIS INFO AMEMBASSY BONN AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY CANBERRA AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN AMEMBASSY DUBLIN AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG USMISSION NATO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA AMEMBASSY ROME AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE AMEMBASSY TOKYO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 162477 E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ICRC, PARM SUBJECT: CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REF; PARIS 17694

- 1. PLEASE TELL GIRARD THAT IT SEEMS CLEAR WE HAVE HAD DIFFERENT ASSUMPTIONS. AT END OF LAST SESSION OF DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE (MID-APRIL) DELEGATES FROM PARIS GROUP COUNTRIES SEEMED IN AGREEMENT THAT AUTUMN MEETING OF GROUP WOULD BE DESIRABLE NEXT STEP IN PREPARATIONS FOR LUGANO EXPERTS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR LATE JANUARY, 1976. WE ASSUMED THAT GOF WOULD WISH TO HOST MEETING, AS IT HAD CHAIRED PREVIOUS MEETINGS, INCLUDING ALL OF A SERIES OF MEETINGS HELD DURING SECOND SESSION OF THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE. REASON WHY WE SUGGESTED SEPTEMBER DATES WAS PRIMARILY BECAUSE US REPS ALDRICH AND ANDERSON EXPECT TO BE IN EUROPE AT THAT TIME AND IT SEEMED CONVENIENT FOR CANADIANS AND BRITISH, WHO WERE ONLY OTHERS WE CONSULTED.
- 2. WITH RESPECT TO AGENDA, WE WOULD EXPECT WHOEVER HOSTS MEETING TO SUGGEST AN AGENDA, BUT THIS DOES NOT SEEM MATTER OF GREAT IMPORTANCE AS ALL CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS QUESTIONS AND SCHEDULE OF FURTHER COORDINATING WORK WILL NEED TO BE CONSIDERED.
- 3. SINCE GOF NOT PREPARED HOST MEETING SEPTEMBER 10 AND 11, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT DATE WILL HAVE TO SLIP SOMEWHAT. WE HAVE NOT CONSIDERED ALTERNATIVE CHAIRMEN AND WOULD, IN ANY EVENT, PREFER FRENCH CHAIRMANSHIP AT SOME DIFFERENT DATE. AMOUNT OF COORDINATION LIKELY TO BE REQUIRED, HOWEVER, WOULD SEEM TO REQUIRE A MEETING NO LATER THAN EARLY OCTOBER. THEREFORE, WOULD APPRECIATE INDICATION WHETHER GOF MIGHT CONSIDER HOSTING MEETING AT SOME TIME IN EITHER SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER.
- 4. WE ARE NOT TRYING TO STICK GOF WITH AN INSTITUTIONAL-IZED CHAIRMANSHIP, BUT GIRARD IS A SUPERB CHAIRMAN.

 MOREOVER, WE APPRECIATE POINT MADE REFTEL THAT MOST
 PARTICIPANTS FIND IT CONVENIENT TO MEET IN EUROPE, AND
 WE NOTE THAT UK HAS HOSTED MOST OF THE WESTERN CONSULTATION MEETINGS ON THE RELATED ISSUES OF THE TWO DRAFT
 PROTOCOLS BEING CONSIDERED BY THE CONFERENCE AND THEREFORE
 PROBABLY SHOULD NOT ALSO HOST PARIS GROUP MEETING.
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PROBABLY SEVERAL MEETINGS WILL BE REQUIRED DURING NEXT SIX MONTHS; PERHAPS BRUSSELS OR THE HAGUE COULD BE ASKED TO HOST ONE OF THEM. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT MOST PARIS GROUP PARTICIPANTS SHARE OUR ASSUMPTION THAT FRENCH WILL HOST FIRST OF THESE MEETINGS, AND WE HOPE GOF WOULD BE PREPARED TO DO SO.

5. PLEASE TELL GIRARD THAT ALDRICH LOOKS FORWARD TO

SEEING HIM AT SAN REMO MEETING IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. IF POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW PRIOR TO THEN WHETHER GOF WOULD BE WILLING HOST MEETING DURING AUTUMN. IN THIS CONNECTION, ALDRICH WILL BE MAKING BRIEF TRIP TO GERMANY AUGUST 2 THROUGH 8 AND WOULD BE HAPPY TO VISIT PARIS EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER TO CONSULT GOF ON QUESTION OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS MEETINGS. FROM PARA 3 REFTEL, ASSUME THAT GIRARD WILL BE AWAY AT THAT TIME. PLEASE ASK GIRARD WHETHER HE WOULD WISH ALDRICH TO SEE ANY OTHER FRENCH OFFICIALS. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, PLANNING MEETINGS, CONVENTIONAL WARFARE

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 10 JUL 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE162477

Document Number: 1975STATE162477
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: GHALDRICH:LR Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750239-0884

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750767/aaaaciho.tel Line Count: 125 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN L

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 75 PARIS 17694 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: greeneet

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 22 APR 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2003 by greeneet>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ONVENTIONAL WEAPONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TAGS: PARM, ICRC

To: PARIS

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006